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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



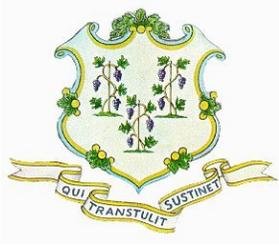
Connecticut's Aerospace Industry: A Consistently Strong Supply Chain of Suppliers, Manufacturers and Highly Skilled Workforce

As part of my commitment to visit every town in Connecticut, I recently spent a day in Bethel visiting two aerospace companies: Eaton Aerospace and Magellan Aerospace.

Eaton Aerospace manufactures and assembles pressure sensors for a variety of military vehicles and space components. Their pressure sensors are used in tanks, military airplanes including the F-22, F-135 and F-136 joint strike fighters, along with Navy vessels and long range missiles. Magellan Aerospace manufactures jet engine sealing rings, turbine nozzles, combustion cases and liners, inlet housings and gear boxes for both military and commercial aircraft.

Both of these companies, along with the aerospace industry as a whole, are crucial to Connecticut's economy because they create not only revenue for the state, but thousands of jobs for the residents of Connecticut. Connecticut's aerospace industry (<http://www.aerospacecomponents.org/>) includes more than 60 companies that manufacture aerospace components.

Since becoming Lieutenant Governor and understanding this industry's impact on Connecticut, I've become a huge supporter of our aerospace industry — through my work with the Aerospace States Association, I cosponsored a National Lieutenant Governors Association resolution urging President Obama to support the aerospace industry, and wrote a letter to President Obama highlighting the aerospace industry in Connecticut.



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As recently as 2007, Connecticut's aerospace products industry employed 44,600 workers: more than five times the concentration of aerospace workers than the nation as a whole.

Connecticut is home to an educated and skilled workforce capable of efficiently producing technologically complex, high value-added goods and services, exemplified by Connecticut's signature industries in aerospace and defense, insurance and financial services, photonics/lasers/optics, biotechnology, and precision machining.

Connecticut corporations and small manufacturing businesses have important roles in fulfilling aerospace contracts. We understand the value of this manufacturing base and its economic importance. Now, manufacturers from across the state work together in areas like progressive manufacturing, purchasing, and workforce development.

One key to this initiative is improving the supply chain — to create a unified vision and a collaborative industry approach to supplier development.

Improving the supply chain is vital to preserving and growing our manufacturing base, and thus, securing skilled jobs now and in the future. There are approximately 380 suppliers in the aerospace and defense industries, and many more that depend on those for their economic vitality.

And the latest data tells us aerospace contributed \$4.6 billion to the state's gross product. Aerospace continues to drive Connecticut's economy and is critical to our long-term competitiveness in today's global marketplace.

The Department of Economic and Community Development is focusing on Connecticut's aerospace supply chain as an important component of their economic strategy. From the large suppliers to the smaller companies, they continue to demonstrate that they are dependable, innovative and focused on creating quality products for their customers and quality jobs.

With the collaborative efforts of Department of Economic and Community Development, Connecticut Center for Advance Technology and funding initiatives like the Center for Manufacturing Supply Chain Integration and the Aerospace and Defense Initiative, as Lieutenant Governor, I'm proud to promote the continued success of Connecticut's aerospace industry. They are a vital thread in our economic success.



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